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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
SPOKANE DIVISION

JARED JACKSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

LIVE NATION ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a
Delaware Corporation; LIVE NATION
WORLDWIDE, INC., a Delaware Corporation;
CENTER STAGE INDUSTRIES LLC, a
Washington Limited Liability Company; Chad
Craig dba A WAY OF LIFE PRODUCTIONS
dba AWOL Productions; and CONSCIOUS
ENTERTAINMENT GROUP LLC, a
Washington Limited Liability Company.

Defendants.

Case No. 2:20-cv-00232

COMPLAINT

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

INTRODUCTION

1. This is a negligence action seeking monetary damages for personal injuries.

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JURISDICTION

2. This Court has diversity jurisdiction over the parties pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1332(a). No defendant is a citizen of the same state as plaintiff and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

3. Venue in this judicial district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred at the Gorge Amphitheater in Grant County, within this judicial district.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff Jared Jackson at all times mentioned herein has been a resident of Arizona.

5. Defendant Live Nation Entertainment, Inc. (“Live Nation Entertainment”), is and at all times mentioned herein has been a Delaware corporation.

6. Defendant Live Nation Worldwide, Inc. (“Live Nation Worldwide”), is and at all times mentioned herein has been a Delaware corporation.

7. Defendants Live Nation Entertainment and Live Nation Worldwide are collectively referred to as “Live Nation.”

8. Defendant Center Stage Industries LLC (“Center Stage”) is and at all times mentioned herein has been a Washington limited liability company.

9. Defendant Conscious Entertainment Group LLC dba USC Events (“USC Events”) is and at all times mentioned herein has been a Washington limited liability company.

10. Defendant Chad Craig dba A Way of Life Productions (“AWOL”) is and at all times mentioned herein has been a resident of Nevada.

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FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

11. On or about June 23, 2017 Defendants Live Nation and USC Events jointly promoted a musical festival called Paradiso Festival 2017 held at the Gorge Amphitheater.

12. The Gorge Amphitheater is located at 754 Silica Rd NW, George, WA 98848. At all times mentioned herein Live Nation was the owner and venue operator of the Gorge Amphitheater.

13. Defendant Center Stage was a stage designer at the Paradiso Festival 2017 held at the Gorge Amphitheater.

14. Defendant AWOL was a stage designer at the Paradiso Festival 2017 held at the Gorge Amphitheater.

15. Plaintiff was employed as a tour manager and sound engineer for musical artists performing at the Paradiso Festival 2017 at the Gorge Amphitheater.

16. The musical artists that Plaintiff manages were in a Performance Agreement with USC Events to perform at the Paradiso Festival 2017 at the Gorge Amphitheater.

17. Prior to and during the stage set-up, Plaintiff put Defendants USC Events, Center Stage, and AWOL on notice of unsafe stage conditions that needed to be fixed prior to the performance of his artists and he believed they addressed it.

18. Alex Bosi, USC Events Production Manager, was a Stage Manager onsite at the Paradiso Festival 2017 on June 23, 2017.

19. On June 23, 2017, Maximilian Goessing of Center Stage Industries was onsite at the Festival. Plaintiff had direct communication with him throughout the day of June 23, 2017.

20. Chad Craig of AWOL was a stage designer onsite the day of the Festival. Plaintiff had direct communication with him throughout the day of June 23, 2017 regarding safety concerns of the stage.

1 21. Despite Plaintiff's prior warnings about the unsafe stage conditions, the stage was
2 not properly marked or set-up at the time of the performance.

3 22. While on stage during the performance, Plaintiff fell through an eight-foot by
4 eight-foot gap in the stage, which was covered with decorative camouflage netting.

5 23. Plaintiff fell approximately 12 feet, suffering severe injuries to his legs and body,
6 requiring extraction by paramedics.

7 **CLAIM FOR RELIEF**
8 **(Negligence)**
9 **Against All Defendants**

10 24. Plaintiff was an invitee of defendants. Alternatively, plaintiff was a licensee of
11 defendants. The above-described fall and injury were caused by the negligence of Defendants in
one or more of the following particulars:

- 12 a. In erecting and/or allowing the use of an elevated stage with gaps that people
13 could fall through;
- 14 b. In failing to place guard rails or physical barriers to prevent people from falling
15 through the stage;
- 16 c. In covering the gaps in the stage with camouflage netting;
- 17 d. In failing to properly mark the stage;
- 18 e. In failing to fill the gap prior to the performance;
- 19 f. In failing to provide lighting to make the gaps in the stage easily visible; and
- 20 g. In failing to have the stage ready for Plaintiff and the musical artists to be able
21 to inspect the stage prior to the scheduled sound check, to ensure the safety of
22 the stage.

23 These actions were unreasonable and dangerous. The conduct of covering the gap with
24 camouflage was reckless given the absence of the lighting or warnings.

1 25. As a result of the above-described fall and injury, Plaintiff suffered catastrophic
2 compression and fracture injuries to his leg, including his right ankle, which had a severely
3 comminuted shortened displaced tibial pilon fracture, as well as breaking 20 bones in his lower
4 leg and ankle; and further suffered swelling, bruising, and extensive medical fracture blisters in
5 the leg, all of which required two surgeries to correct, all to Plaintiff's noneconomic damages to
6 be proven at trial.

7 26. As a further result of the above-described accident and injury, Plaintiff has
8 incurred medical expenses in the amount of \$55,000 and will in the future incur medical
9 expenses in the amount of in an amount to be determined at trial.

10 27. As a further result of the above-described accident and injury, Plaintiff lost
11 income in the amount of \$50,000 and has suffered a loss of earning capacity in the amount of
12 \$50,000.

13 28. Plaintiff demands non-economic damages as allowed under Washington law.

14 29. Plaintiff demands a jury

15 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays a joint and several judgment for economic damages,
16 noneconomic damages, costs and disbursements, and equitable relief.

17 DATED: June 22, 2020

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